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7-24-04

NIT-272

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

K. TATSUNO et al.

Serial No. 09/814,693

Group Art Unit: 2633

Filed: March 15, 2001

Examiner: C. Nguyen

For: OPTICAL FIBER COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT
AND ITS APPLIED OPTICAL SYSTEMS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)
UNDER § 1.97 AND § 1.98

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop DD
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

JUL 19 2004

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

1. This IDS should be considered:

(a) when filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or within three months of the filing date of the National Stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

(b) when filed before the mailing date of either a Final Rejection under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first and when 1(a) does not apply. For this purpose, there is included herein either a certification in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box), or a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed, or if not see section 5 below);

(c) when filed prior to the payment of the Issue Fee, when 1(a)-(b) do not apply, and when a certification is included in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box); then the Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) and

request(s) consideration of this IDS, and provided herewith is a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the petition fee, or if not see section 5 below).

2. When 1(a)-(c) do not apply, then it is requested that this IDS be placed in the file.

3. Listing of the information submitted is on the attached Form PTO-1449, which forms a part of this IDS. A copy of each listed document is enclosed when needed (needed for U.S. and foreign patents, publication or portion thereof listed; no copy of a U.S. patent application is needed; a copy of a document is not needed when previously submitted or previously cited by the PTO in a parent application of the present application as set forth under 35 U.S.C. § 120).

4. The undersigned hereby states:

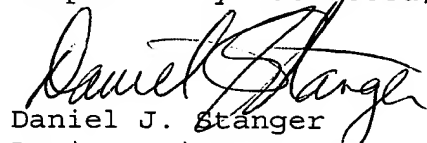
☒ (a) that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, as indicated on the copy of the communication submitted herewith, which communication was dated not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or

5. If a fee or additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or additional fee that may be required and credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

6. No explanation of relevancy is being provided for the following document(s) because each is either in the English language, discussed in the present Specification, or its relevance is as stated in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

7. If the PTO determines that part(s) of the required content is inadvertently omitted, then it is requested that the Applicant(s) be given additional time and specific identification of such omission(s) to enable full compliance.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 16, 2004

FORM PTO-1449
(REV. 7-80)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
NIT-272SERIAL NO.
10/814,693LIST OF DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)APPLICANT
K. TATSUNO et al.FILING DATE
03/15/2001GROUP
2633

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

* EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (If Appropriate)
	AA	5,185,643	02/09/93	Schierle et al.	356	358	
	AB	5,286,966	02/15/94	Ri et al.	250	205	/ /
	AC	4,583,228	04/15/86	Brown et al.	372	32	
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AL	W095/29521	11/02/95	PCT				
	AM	EP0867989	09/01/99	EUROPE				
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR		European Search Report based European Serial No. 01106351, dated 16/04/04.
	AS		
	AT		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.